



01-27-04

RCE/3621

PTO/SB/30 (10/01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/406,486
Filing Date	September 27, 1999
First Named Inventor	Yoichiro SAKO et al.
Group Art Unit	3621
Examiner Name	Firmin BACKER
Attorney Docket Number	450100-02102

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under CFR 1.114.**a. ☒ Previously submitted**

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on December 22, 2003.

(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(I) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 50-0320.**

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of **\$770.00** is enclosed for the following: filing fee.

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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GROUP 3600

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Gordon Kessler	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,511
Signature	<i>Gordon Kessler</i>	Date	January 26, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: **Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Gordon Kessler	Date	January 26, 2004
Signature	<i>Gordon Kessler</i>		
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 385415640 US			

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